

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

31 JANUARY 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Boulevard – CHP Discovers 77 Unauthorized Immigrants in “UPS Truck” Near the Border

(U) A traffic stop on what appeared to be a brown UPS truck revealed 77 unauthorized immigrants inside its hot cargo area. Five children were found traveling among the overheated group of Mexican nationals, who admitted to being in the US illegally. A California Highway Patrol officer pulled the truck over because the vehicle had no tags and was weaving on Old Highway 80. When the officer approached the truck, he observed it was riding “extremely low” and had what appeared to be fresh paint on the rear. In an interview with authorities, the driver, Shawn Lee Seiler, admitted to being a human smuggler who was expecting to transport 50 people that evening, the complaint says. He said he was surprised to learn there were 77 inside. Seiler was arrested on a charge of transporting unauthorized immigrants for financial gain.

SOURCE: 30 January 2018, [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Massachusetts – Pharmacist to be Sentenced for Role in US Meningitis Outbreak

(U) Boston – A Massachusetts pharmacist is set to be sentenced today after being convicted on racketeering and fraud charges stemming from his role in a 2012 fungal meningitis outbreak that killed 76 people and sickened hundreds more. Glenn Chin, the former supervisory pharmacist at New England Compounding Center (NECC), was convicted by a federal jury in Boston in October. Prosecutors say that Chin, 49, deserves 35 years in prison for overseeing the dispensing of thousands of substandard and dangerous drugs manufactured in filthy conditions at the now-defunct Framingham, Massachusetts-based NECC. Prosecutors said those drugs included mold-tainted steroids produced at NECC that were then injected into patients, harming at least 778 people in 20 different states.

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Police Detain Three in Raids on Human Trafficking Ring

(U) Berlin – German police arrested three people today in a nationwide operation to crack down on a gang accused of trafficking migrants into Germany in trucks last year. The police said they arrested a Turk, aged 44, a 37-year old Pole and a Bulgarian, 53, in raids on seven properties in Berlin, Bremen, North Rhine-Westphalia and Saxony. Investigators believe the traffickers smuggled at least 160 migrants into Germany in the summer and autumn of 2017, hiding some of them in trucks behind goods and pallets, police said.

SOURCE: 30 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – Mexico Deploying 5,000 Federal Troops in Response to Violent Crime Surge

(U) Tijuana – More than 5,000 federal security forces are being deployed across Mexico this week as violent crime has surged in popular tourist areas such as Los Cabos and Cancun. Topping the list of places the mostly federal police were reinforcing were the city of Tijuana and the Los Cabos resort area

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Form # 1168-442e-b407-de1a8c242c14

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

in Baja California. Mexico is battling increasingly widespread violent crime linked to multiple factors. In 2017, more than 25,339 killings were reported, the worst since records began in 1997.

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [AFP](#)

(U) Philippines – Philippines Files Charges against Doctor Linked to Planned New York Attacks

(U) Manila – The Philippine justice ministry has filed charges of murder and kidnapping against a doctor linked to a foiled plot to mount gun and bomb attacks in New York City and over his role in the abduction of six sawmill workers in a southern province. Salic, who had expressed support for ISIS on social media, sent about \$423 from the Philippines to an FBI undercover officer to help pay for the attacks in New York. US authorities filed criminal charges against the 37-year-old doctor in October last year and wanted him extradited along with Pakistani Talha Haroon, who was also linked to the bomb plot in Manhattan's Times Square.

SOURCE: 30 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Turkey – Court Jails Three for Life over Bombing of German Tourists

(U) Istanbul – A Turkish court sentenced three people to multiple life sentences today in connection with a bombing that killed 12 German tourists in Istanbul two years ago. A suicide bomber, Saudi-born Syrian Nabil Fadli, killed the tourists when he blew himself up in Sultanahmet, Istanbul's historic heart, on 12 January 2016. Turkish authorities blamed ISIS for the attack. Two Syrians, Atala el-Hasan el-Mayyup and Fevzi Muhammed Ali, and a Turkish man, Halil Dervis, were found guilty of aiding murder, trying to overthrow the government and constitution, membership of a terrorist organization and committing crimes in the name of an armed terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Vietnam – Vietnam Names California-Based Exile Group a Terrorist Organization

(U) Hanoi – Vietnam declared a California-based exile group a terrorist organization today a month after 15 local members were convicted in a failed bombing of the country's largest airport. The attempted attack at the Tan Son Nhat airport in Ho Chi Minh City in April caused a scare but no casualties. The communist government linked it to the Provisional Central Government of Vietnam, or PCGV, an exile group established in 1991 and little known locally but tied to the defeated US-backed South Vietnamese republic. A court in Ho Chi Minh City in December convicted the group's local members of terrorism and sentenced them up to 16 years in jail. Police have also issued arrest warrants for a US citizen, Dao Minh Quan, the self-claimed prime minister of PCGV, and Lisa Pham, a senior member of the group, for their alleged roles in the case.

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [Mercury News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.

This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.